RCI-17 - Participation in Voluntary Industry-Government Partnerships

Benefit/Cost of Reducing CO_2e:

Colorado: Low reduction potential; Low cost

Assessment: Medium Priority. Bin B. 7 out of 22 votes.

Although the GHG emissions reduction potential of this policy option is likely to be modest, industry-government partnerships are a low-cost measure.

Federal support for these measures can be leveraged to bolster state-level efforts.
Federal examples of industry-government partnerships include:

The Natural Gas STAR Program is a flexible, voluntary partnership between EPA and the oil and natural gas industry. Through the Program, EPA works with companies that produce, process, and transmit and distribute natural gas to identify and promote the implementation of cost-effective technologies and practices to reduce emissions of methane, a potent greenhouse gas. There is no upfront cost to joining the Natural Gas STAR Program and members have found significant economic benefits from participation. Some of the Best Management Practices (BMPs) have small incremental costs over standard technologies or processes, they are generally cost effective, and can be recouped in as little as 1-2 years.[22]

The SF_6 Emission Reduction Partnership for Electric Power Systems is a collaborative effort between EPA and the electric power industry to identify and implement cost-effective solutions to reduce sulfur hexafluoride (SF_6) emissions. SF_6 is a highly potent greenhouse gas used in the industry for insulation and current interruption in electric transmission and distribution equipment. Currently over 70 utilities participate in this voluntary program.[23]

There is also a new Energy Star program for refineries. Conoco-Phillips Billings, Montana refinery was recently recognized as the first operation to receive an Energy Star rating for superior performance.[24]

---

[22] See http://www.epa.gov/gasstar/
[23] http://www.epa.gov/electricpower-sf6/index.html
[24]http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/4b779454038214c1852572a000651fe2/59ab6ae263da9895852572bb0047de db!OpenDocument